# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# TOURISM AND CULTURE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2855
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2001
OPENING OF EXCAVATION BRANCH OF ASI IN CHENNAI
P.D. ELANGOVAN

**Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government have received any request for opening of excavation branch of ASI at Chennai; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereto?

## Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The Archaeological Survey of India had received a request for opening an excavation branch at Chennai.In the last meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Archaeology, the need for an excavation branch covering the South Indian States was accepted. Accordingly, the Archaeological Survey of India after taking all administrative aspects into consideration has set-up a new excavation branch at Mysore.